''(2) enhance fundamental understanding of the composition, structure, dynamics, and evolution of the continental crust, and how such processes affect natural phenomena such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, transfer of geothermal energy, distribution of mineral deposits, the occurrence of fossil fuels, and the nature and extent of aquifers;

''(3) advance basic earth sciences research and technological development;

''(4) obtain critical data regarding the earth's crust relating to isolation of hazardous wastes; and

''(5) develop a long-range plan for implementation of the Continental Scientific Drilling Program.

''SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

''Congress finds that—

''(1) because the earth provides energy, minerals, and water, and is used as a storage medium for municipal, chemical, and nuclear waste, an understanding of the processes and structures in the earth's crust is essential to the well being of the United States;

''(2) there is a need for developing long-range plans for a United States Continental Scientific Drilling Program; and

''(3) the Continental Scientific Drilling Program would enhance—

''(A) understanding of the crustal evolution of the earth and the mountain building processes;

''(B) understanding of the mechanisms of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions and the development of improved techniques for prediction;

''(C) understanding of the development and utilization of geothermal and other energy sources and the formation of and occurrence of mineral deposits;

''(D) understanding of the migration of fluids in the earth's crust for evaluation of waste contamination and the development of more effective techniques for the safe subsurface disposal of hazardous wastes;

''(E) understanding and definition of the size, source, and more effective use of aquifers and other water resources; and

''(F) evaluation and verification of surface geophysical techniques needed for exploring and monitoring the earth's crust.

''SEC. 4. IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTINENTAL SCIENTIFIC DRILLING PROGRAM.

''The Secretary of the Department of Energy, the Secretary of the Department of the Interior through the United States Geological Survey, and the Director of the National Science Foundation shall implement the policies of section 323 of the joint resolution entitled 'Joint Resolution making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1985, and for other purposes', approved October 12, 1984 (Public Law 98–473; 98 Stat. 1875) [set out below] by—

''(1) taking such action as necessary to assure an effective, cooperative effort in furtherance of the Continental Scientific Drilling Program of the United States;

''(2) taking all reasonable administrative and financial measures to assure that the Interagency Accord on Continental Scientific Drilling continues to function effectively in support of such program;

''(3) assuring the continuing effective operation of the Interagency Coordinating Group to further the objectives of such program;

''(4) taking such action to assure that the Interagency Coordinating Group receives appropriate cooperation from any Federal agency that can contribute to the objectives of such program, without adversely affecting any program or activity of such agency;

''(5) acting through the Interagency Coordinating Group, preparing and submitting to the Congress, within one hundred and eighty days after the enactment of this Act [Sept. 22, 1988] a report describing—

''(A) long and short-term policy objectives and goals of the United States Continental Scientific Drilling Program;

''(B) projected schedules of desirable scientific and engineering events that would advance United States objectives in the Continental Scientific Drilling Program;

''(C) the levels of resources and funding for fiscal year 1989 that would be required by each participating Federal agency to carry out events pursuant to subparagraphs (A) and (B);

''(D) the scientific, economic, technological, and social benefits expected to be realized through the implementation of such program at each level described in subparagraph (C);

''(E) a recommended course for interaction with the international community in a cooperative effort to achieve the goals and purposes of this Act;

''(F) the extent of participation or interest shown to date in the Continental Scientific Drilling Program by—

''(i) any other governmental agency;

''(ii) any academic institution;

''(iii) any organization in the private sector; and

''(iv) any governmental or other entity in the international community;

''(G) a plan to develop beneficial cooperative relationships among the entities mentioned in subparagraph (F), to the extent that the Interagency Coordinating Group deems practicable; and

''(H) any other information or recommendations that the Interagency Coordinating Group deems appropriate; and

''(6) submitting to the Congress annually, beginning one year after the submission of a report under paragraph (5), a report describing the levels of resources and funding that would be required by each participating Federal agency for the next fiscal year to carry out events pursuant to paragraph (5)(A) and (B).''

Pub. L. 98–473, title I, § 101(c) [title III, § 323], Oct. 12, 1984, 98 Stat. 1837, 1875, provided that: ''It is the sense of the Congress that the Continental Scientific Drilling Program is an important national scientific endeavor, benefiting the commerce of the Nation, which should be vigorously pursued by Government and the private sector. The Continental Scientific Drilling Program is an important national scientific endeavor that is vital to the understanding of the geologic evolution of the Earth and the economic value of its resources; the most effective and efficient means of realizing the fullest potential in the Continental Scientific Drilling Program is through a cooperative effort by the Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, and the United States Geological Survey; many important commercial and scientific advances may result from the Continental Scientific Drilling Program; and many foreign nations are engaged in a comparable deep drilling program, and cooperation and coordination would be beneficial to United States efforts. It is the sense of the Congress that—

''(1) the Continental Scientific Drilling Program is an important national scientific endeavor by the United States which should be enthusiastically implemented through a joint cooperative effort among the United States Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, and the United States Geological Survey;

''(2) the private sector should be encouraged to support the Continental Scientific Drilling Program and the participating agencies should solicit appropriate private sector participation in such program; and

''(3) the United States Government should cooperate to the extent practicable with the international community in developing this important scientific and technical activity.''

§ 31a. Findings and purpose

(a) Findings

The Congress finds and declares that—

(1) during the past 2 decades, the production of geologic maps has been drastically curtailed;

(2) geologic maps are the primary data base for virtually all applied and basic earth-science investigations, including—

(A) exploration for and development of mineral, energy, and water resources;

(B) screening and characterizing sites for toxic and nuclear waste disposal;

(C) land use evaluation and planning for environmental protection;

(D) earthquake hazards reduction;

(E) predicting volcanic hazards;

(F) design and construction of infrastructure requirements such as utility lifelines, transportation corridors, and surface-water impoundments;

(G) reducing losses from landslides and other ground failures;

(H) mitigating effects of coastal and stream erosion;

(I) siting of critical facilities; and

(J) basic earth-science research;

(3) Federal agencies, State and local governments, private industry, and the general public depend on the information provided by geologic maps to determine the extent of potential environmental damage before embarking on projects that could lead to preventable, costly environmental problems or litigation;

(4) the combined capabilities of State, Federal, and academic groups to provide geologic mapping are not sufficient to meet the present and future needs of the United States for national security, environmental protection, and energy self-sufficiency of the Nation;

(5) States are willing to contribute 50 percent of the funding necessary to complete the mapping of the geology within the State;

(6) the lack of proper geologic maps has led to the poor design of such structures as dams and waste-disposal facilities;

(7) geologic maps have proven indispensable in the search for needed fossil-fuel and mineral resources; and

(8) a comprehensive nationwide program of geologic mapping is required in order to systematically build the Nation's geologic-map data base at a pace that responds to increasing demand.

(b) Purpose

The purpose of sections 31a to 31h of this title is to expedite the production of a geologic-map data base for the Nation, to be located within the United States Geological Survey, which can be applied to land-use management, assessment, and utilization, conservation of natural resources, groundwater management, and environmental protection.

(Pub. L. 102–285, §2, May 18, 1992, 106 Stat. 166.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 31a to 31h of this title, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original ''this Act'', meaning Pub. L. 102–285, which is classified principally to sections 31a to 31h of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note below and Tables.

SHORT TITLE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 102–285 provided that: ''This Act [enacting this section and sections 31b to 31h of this title, amending sections 1457, 1457a, and 1782 of this title, sections 450ii–3, 665, 1133, and 3151 of Title 16, Conservation, section 262k of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse, section 1677 of Title 25, Indians, sections 1, 1a, 2, 3, 4, 4c, 4d, 5, 6, 7, 8, 411, 412, 804, 812, 871, 878, 1224, 1229, 1232, 1311, 1315, and 1604 of Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining, and sections 5814 and 6505 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, enacting provisions set out as notes under section 31 of this title and section 1 of Title 30, and amending provisions set out as a note under section 1231 of Title 30] may be cited as the 'National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992'.''

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 31b, 31d, 31f, 31g, 31h of this title.

§ 31b. Definitions

As used in sections 31a to 31h of this title:

(1) The term ''advisory committee'' means the advisory committee established under section 31d of this title.

(2) The term ''Director'' means the Director of the United States Geological Survey.

(3) The term ''geologic mapping program'' means the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program established by section 31c(a) of this title.

(4) The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior.

(5) The term ''Survey'' means the United States Geological Survey.

(Pub. L. 102–285, §3, May 18, 1992, 106 Stat. 167.)

§ 31c. Geologic mapping program

(a) Establishment

There is established in the United States Geological Survey a National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program. The geologic mapping program shall be developed in consultation with the advisory committee and shall be designed and administered to achieve the objectives set forth in subsection (c) of this section.

(b) Responsibilities of USGS

(1) The Survey shall be the lead Federal agency responsible for planning, developing priorities, coordinating, and managing the geologic mapping program. In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary, acting through the Director, shall—

(A) develop a geologic mapping program implementation plan in accordance with section 31e of this title, which plan shall be submitted to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate within 300 days after May 18, 1992;

(B) appoint, with the advice and consultation of the State geological surveys, the advisory committee within 90 days after May 18, 1992, in accordance with section 31d of this title; and

(C) within 210 days after May 18, 1992, submit a report to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate and to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives identifying—

(i) how the Survey will coordinate the development and implementation of the geologic mapping program;

(ii) how the Survey will establish goals, mapping priorities, and target dates for im-